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For Period Ending January 31, 1988

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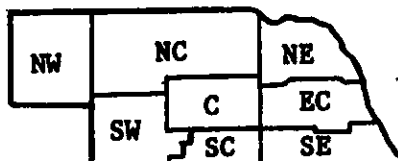
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National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UNL

WEATHER

The week was pleasantly mild and mostly dry. Average temperatures ranged from one to eight degrees above normal. Little or no precipitation occurred throughout the week.

GENERAL

Winter weather was evident throughout the State as several snow storms passed through during January. Heaviest snows in the northern and western counties caused problems with livestock care and feeding. Snow depth averaged 6.1 inches for Nebraska, providing the winter wheat crop good protection but intensifying livestock management. Farm and ranch activities included machinery maintenance, shop work and bookkeeping. Stored grains were reported in good condition for most of the State. Planning for the 1988 crop year had producers attending meetings and purchasing seed and other input items.

WINTER WHEAT

Winter wheat condition rated 27% fair, 70% good and 3% excellent. Adequate snow cover was reported in most wheat growing areas, protecting the crop from

WINTER WHEAT (Cont.)

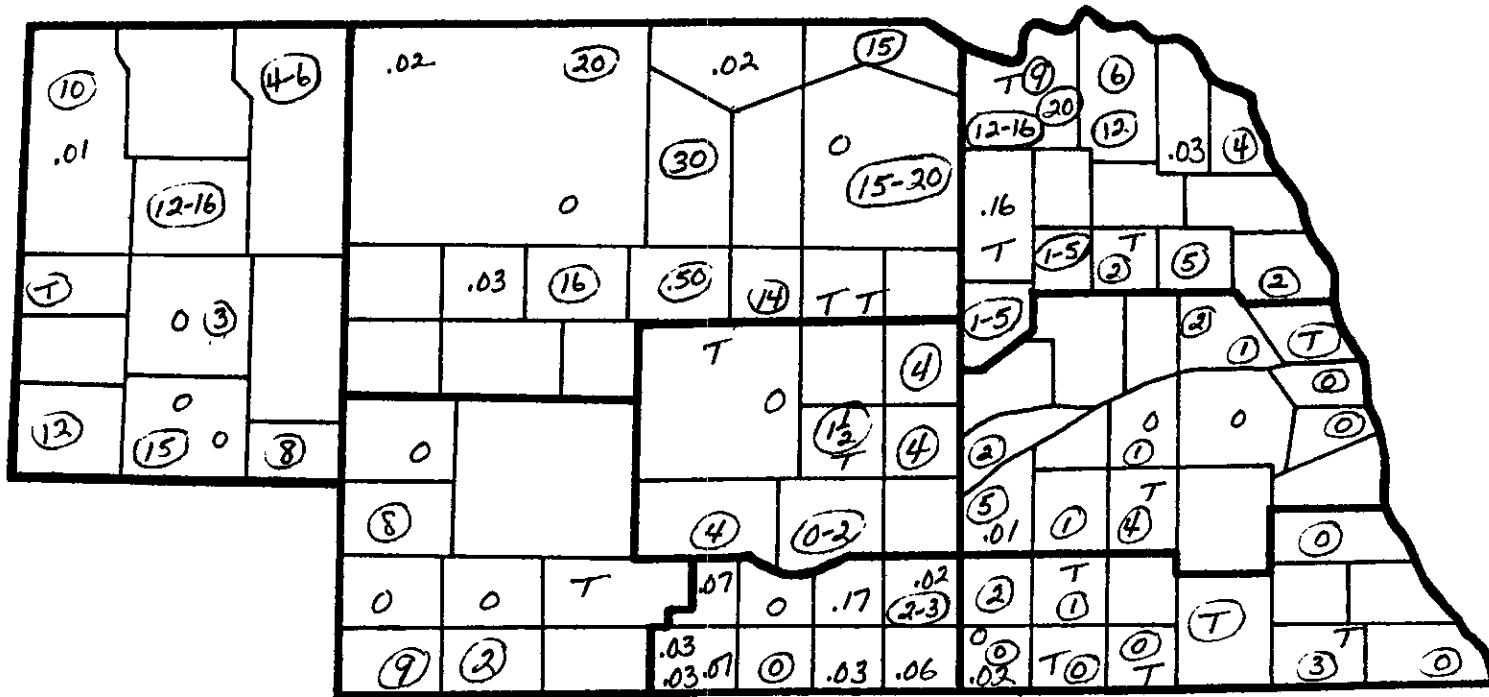
the harsh winds and cold temperatures. Snow was blown off in some areas, exposing the crop to the elements. Warmer temperatures late in January melted snow cover and provided a boost to soil moisture supplies.

Topsoil moisture was reported mostly adequate to surplus, while subsoil moisture was mostly adequate. The return of cold, windy weather during the last two days of January could threaten exposed wheat fields.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition declined with the winter weather. Increased hay feeding was necessary with the depletion of available grasses; forage supplies remain adequate in most areas. The wind and snow has stressed many unsheltered cattle but no major losses have been reported. Drifting snow was a problem in farm yards and feedlots. Early spring calving was underway in most counties, as the State's progress was 2% complete. Losses have been minimal so far. Overall, the condition of cattle in Nebraska rated 22% fair, 76% good and 2% excellent. Spring lambing had also begun in late January.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1988



Circled numbers indicate depth of snow (inches) reported by county agents, vocational agriculture instructors and Farm Credit Services representatives at the end of January.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1988

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	51	1	26	--	.01
Scottsbluff	54	7	29	+3	.05
Sidney	45	7	28	--	0
NC Ord	51	-4	24	--	0
Valentine	43	-15	21	+1	.02
NE Norfolk	49	-10	22	+4	.01
Sioux City	49	-14	21	+4	T
CEN Grand Island	55	-2	27	+5	.01
EC Lincoln	58	-1	29	+8	T
Omaha	56	-8	27	+7	.01
SW Imperial	--	--	--	--	--
North Platte	46	-5	23	+1	.02

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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